

The Greek Alphabet

Name of the letter	Capital letters	Small letters	English equivalent	Pronunciation
Alpha	Α	α	a	When long like <i>a</i> in “father,” when short like <i>a</i> in “cat.”
Beta	Β	β	b	Like English <i>b</i> .
Gamma	Γ	γ	g	Always hard like <i>g</i> in “get.”
Delta	Δ	δ	d	Like English <i>d</i> .
Epsilon	Ε	ε	e	Like <i>e</i> in “met.”
Zeta	Ζ	ζ	z	Like English <i>z</i> or <i>ds</i> .
Eta	Η	η	ē	Like <i>a</i> in “fate.”
Theta	Θ	θ	th	Like <i>th</i> in “thin.”
Iota	Ι	ι	i	When long like <i>ee</i> in “queen,” when short like <i>i</i> in “hit.”
Kappa	Κ	κ	k	Like English <i>k</i> .
Lambda	Λ	λ	l	Like English <i>l</i> .
Mu	Μ	μ	m	Like English <i>m</i> .
Nu	Ν	ν	n	Like English <i>n</i> .
Xi	Ξ	ξ	x	Like English <i>x</i> .
Omicron	Ο	ο	o	Like <i>o</i> in “not.”
Pi	Π	π	p	Like English <i>p</i> .
Rho	Ρ	ρ	r	Like English <i>r</i> .
Sigma	Σ	σ, ς	s	Like English <i>s</i> .
Tau	Τ	τ	t	Like English <i>t</i> .
Upsilon	Υ	υ	u	Like French <i>u</i> in “du.”
Phi	Φ	φ	ph	Like English <i>ph</i> .
Chi	Χ	χ	ch	Like <i>ch</i> in “chaos,” or in Scotch “loch.”
Psi	Ψ	ψ	ps	Like <i>ps</i> in “lips.”
Omega	Ω	ω	ō	Like <i>o</i> in “tone.”

Notes

- The letter γ is sounded like *n* before the letters γ, κ, χ, and ξ
- ς (final sigma) is used only when sigma is the last letter of the word
- When a Greek word is transliterated into English, υ always becomes *y*